

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 ACDA-07 MC-02

AID-05 IGA-02 OMB-01 EB-08 TRSE-00 ARA-06 /122 W

-----041257Z 050850 /46

R 041014Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5341

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBWSSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USUN NEW YORK 1231

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0885

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, UR, XJ, XF

SUBJ: PODGORNYS VISIT TO ZAMBIA - THE LOCAL EGYPTIAN VIEW

REF: LUSAKA 0867

1. AN EGYPTIAN EMBASSY CONTACT CALLED ON EMBOFF APRIL 1 TO DISCUSS PODGORNYS VISIT TO ZAMBIA AND SPELLED OUT AT SOME LENGTH HIS INTERPRETATION OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PODGORNYS VISIT TO AFRICA, ESPECIALLY TO ZAMBIA. HE GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT HE WAS PRESENTING THE OFFICIAL EGYPTIAN VIEW.

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2. THE HIGHLIGHTS OF HIS PRESENTATION WERE:

--- IN THE WAKE OF THE AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT THE SOVIETS ARE MOVING DELIBERATELY TO THWART INCREASING COOPERATION BETWEEN AFRICAN AND MODERATE ARAB STATES.

--- THE SOVIETS HOPE TO OFFSET THE DEFEATS THEY HAVE ENCOUNTERED IN THE MIDDLE EAST BY BECOMING THE EXCLUSIVE PATRONS OF THE

LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

--- THROUGH THE EXTENSION OF ARMS AID THE SOVIETS INTEND TO CAPTURE THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. THE SOVIETS ARE RELYING ON ARMS AID, NOT ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, AS THE PRINCIPLE TOOL IN THEIR CAMPAIGN.

--- THE SOVIETS WILL NOT SUPPLY THEIR AID THROUGH THE OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE, BUT WILL DO IT DIRECTLY THROUGH ANGOLA WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE CUBANS.

--- THE CUBANS ARE WAITING EAGERLY IN THE WINGS FOR THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS TO SUFFER MILITARY SETBACKS AND AS SOON AS CALLED WILL SUPPLY COBATANT TROOPS.

--- DISCUSSING THE POLITICAL LEANINGS OF AFRICAN LEADERS, THE EGYPTIAN OBSERVED THAT ALL THE FRONTLINE STATES EXCEPT ZAMBIA ARE PRO-SOVIET, WITH ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE COMPLETE CAPTIVES. THERE ARE ONLY TWO POLITICIANS WHO MAINTAIN ROOM FOR INDEPENDENT MANEUVER IN THE AREA, MOBUTU AND KAUNDA. MOBUTU IS HAVING HIS TROUBLES AND ZAMBIA WILL BE NEXT WHEN IT FINDS ITSELF SUBJECTED TO HEAVY SOVIET PRESSURE.

3. THE EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL DISMISSED AS IRRELEVANT THE OBSERVATION THAT THERE ARE PERHAPS SOME LEADERS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA WHO WOULD NOT WELCOME SUPERPOWER INTERFERENCE IN THE AREA AND TRULY SEEK AFRICAN SOLUTIONS TO AFRICAN PROBLEMS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LUSAKA00885
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DC CORRECTED PER MEMO FROM AF/E-PETER G SMITH TO O/FADRC-MR JOHN PRUDEN OF JUNE 23, 1977
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770116-0652
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770491/aaaadbsq.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 453901ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LUSAKA 867
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2909248
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PODGORNYY'S VISIT TO ZAMBIA - THE LOCAL EGYPTIAN VIEW
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, UR, ZA, XJ, XF, EG, (PODGORNYY, NIKOLAY VIKTOROVICH)
To: STATE ADDIS ABABA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/453901ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009